

REMARKS

Responsive to the election of species requirement, applicant elects the species of Figure 4. Claims 1-3 and 5-11 read on the species of Figure 4.

The requirement indicates that Figures 4 and 9 disclose different quick coupling means. Figure 4 and 5 show in a front and top view, a hull that may be used for realizing a boat similar to the one shown in Figure 1. Figures 9 and 10 respectively show a top view and a longitudinal sectional view of another way for realizing the hull of a modular boat according to the present invention.

The specification teaches that the modular system according to the present invention mainly comprises modular elements 1a-1e that may be associated to a main frame 2 by means of reversible quick coupling means. One such arrangement comprises trolleys 4 that may be associated to the platform 3 of the modular elements 1a-1e, sliding along guides 5 fixed to the main frame 2. The invention also provides for blocking said modular elements 1a-1e in a determined position on said main frame 2, said guides 5 comprise a plurality of references, e.g. holes 8, and said trolleys 4 comprise blocking means for cooperation with said references, e.g. pins 9 with a return spring, or equivalent means like screws, nuts, 'velcro'. See that element 5 is shown in Figure 4 but not illustrated in Figure 9.

Figure 9 shows that the reversible quick coupling means may comprise a housing (10) associated to the main frame (2), for the insertion of a base (11) associated to said modular elements (1a-1e), and that may be blocked in position inside said housing (10).

Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Roland E. Long, Jr. Reg. No. 41,949
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

REL/lad